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EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2189

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/531,240

Applicant(s)

PHILLIPS ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 15, 17-20, 29-31 and 34-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bernard (US Patent 5,497,339)

a. As per claims 1 and 15, Bernard discloses a method of interfacing with a communication station, the method comprising:

- receiving semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a ^{[0048], [0104]} format native to the PDA; (col.1, lines 39-51), (col.4, lines 45-47), wherein data transmits and receives to/from PDA via micro-controller)
- parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-structured data; (col.18, lines 19-20), (col.18, lines 39-40) ^{col 28, fig 5C}
- sending a job to a destination indicated by the semi-structured data, if the ^{[0052], [0097]} semi-structured data is destination data. (col.24, lines 14-24)

b. As per claim 2, Bernard discloses the PDA wirelessly transmits the semi-structured data in a standard PDA format to the communication station. (col. 18, ⁴⁸⁻⁴⁹ 39-42), wherein radio(PDA) implies wireless)

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c. As per claims 3 and 17, the PDA is physically coupled to the communication station when sending the semi-structured data. (see abstract, wherein communication device electronically connected) ⁵⁴⁹

d. As per claims 5 and 19, Bernard disclosed the destination dictates how the data is sent. (col.15, lines 59-67), (col.16, lines 1-5)

e. As per claims 6 and 20, e-mailing the data if the destination is an e-mail address, and faxing the data if the destination is a fax number. (col.15, lines 59-67), (col.16, lines 1-9), (col.19, lines 6-9) wherein email address inherently mail server, fax number inherently fax-server)

f. As per claim 34, A system comprising:

- a personal digital assistant (PDA), (fig.10, 102B), (col.17, lines 26-39) ¹⁰⁴
- a communications appliance coupled to a network; (fig.10, 710), (col.17, lines 26-39) ^{36, 49}
- a memory for storing a unique job identification (job ID) for each job handled by the communications appliance; (col.28, lines 38-52) ⁵²⁻⁵³
- the communications appliance comprising:
 - a communication interface (fig.15, 701) to receive semi-structured data from the PDA; (col.27, lines 3-15), (col.28, lines 38-62), wherein specific data for a specific requested application) ⁰⁰⁵²
 - a parser to parse the semi-structured data and to identify a type of the semi-structured data; (col.18, lines 19-20), (col.18, lines 39-40)

^{52, 009}

- a sending logic for handing data based on the semi structured data received from the PDA; (col.24, lines 14-24)

g. As per claim 35, the job ID may include one or more of the following:

identification of the item, destination of the item. (col.18, lines 9-29)

h. As per claim 36, the destination may be one or more of the following: a copy feature of the communication device, an e-mail address, and a fax number.

(col.15, lines 59-67), (col.16, lines 1-9), (col.19, lines 6-9) wherein email address inherently mail server, fax number inherently fax-server, copy feature inherently print)

i. As per claim 18, a data structure logic to generate structured data from the semi-structured data and to determine if the destination data indicates a plurality of destinations; (col.24, lines 40-62), (col.27, lines 61-66), wherein identifies type of data indication of particular data for particular destination)

j. As per claim 29, a PDA interface for indicating to the PDA what actions were performed. (col.28, lines 44-58), (col.18, lines 9-29), wherein type of data obtains specific data for a specific requested, application server generates data in response to function calls)

k. As per claim 30, method comprising:

- receiving semi-structured data from a personal digital assistant (PDA) in a format native to the PDA; (col.1, lines 39-51), (col.4, lines 45-47), wherein data transmits and receives to/from PDA via micro-controller)

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- parsing the semi-structured data to identify a type of the semi-structured data; (col.18, lines 19-20), (col.18, lines 39-40)
- acting on data in the manner indicated by the semi-structured data and a user; (col.1, lines 39-51), (col.4, lines 45-47), wherein data transmits and receives to/from PDA via micro-controller, data to/from PDA implies semi-structured data)
- returning a confirmation receipt to the PDA in a format native to the PDA, the confirmation receipt including a unique identification (ID). (col.24, lines 40-62), (col.28, lines 25-43)

l. As per claim 31, Bernard discloses the unique ID includes document/data sent, destination, and method of sending. (col.18, lines 9-29)

m. As per claim 37, comprising: a user identification logic for identifying an owner of the PDA from whom the data is received. (col.18, lines 9-29), wherein address identifying destination)

n. As per claim 38, the job ID further includes the identity of the owner of the PDA. (col.18, lines 9-29), wherein address identifying destination)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 4, 7-14, 21-28, 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernard (US Patent 5,497,339) in view of Wright, Jr. (US Patent 5,704,029)

a. As per claims 4, 7, 10, 14, 21, 24 and 28, Bernard discloses all the limitations as above except method further comprising prompting a user to select one of the plurality of destinations for the information. However, Wright discloses the user is prompted to select the desired field type from a list of multiple field types. (col.8, lines 53-61)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Wright's teaching into Bernard's method because Wright's system to have a user prompt so as to be a greater flexibility for selecting the information and so as to be easily gather information. Thereby it would increase the system performance.

b. As per claims 8, 22, Bernard discloses the destination may be one or more of the following: a copy feature of the communication device, an e-mail address, and a fax number. (col.15, lines 59-67), (col.16, lines 1-9), (col.19, lines 6-9) wherein email address inherently mail server, fax number inherently fax-server, copy feature inherently print)

c. As per claims 9, 12, Bernard discloses fetching information comprises:

- connecting to a network; (fig.10, 750)
- connecting to the source; (fig.10,750), (col.17, lines 40-60)

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- downloading the information from the source. (fig.10, 104), wherein enables buffer implies release data, (col.4, lines 45-50)

d. As per claims 11 and 25, Bernard discloses search request comprises an incomplete data set. (col.28, lines 22-23)

e. As per claims 13, 27,39-40, Bernard discloses the search location is one or more of the an internal directory of users, an electronic white pages. (col.28, lines 25-65), wherein table 744 identify type of requests)

f. As per claims 23 and 26, Bernard discloses the retrieving logic is further to connect to the source through a network and download the information from the source. (col.28, lines 44-58)

5. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernard (US Patent 5,497,339) in view of Will (US Patent 5,825,353)

Bernard discloses all the limitations as above except the communication interface receives the data over an infrared beam in a standard PDA format. However, Will discloses PDA transmits data from infrared emitter. (col.11, lines 32-35)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Will's teaching into Bernard's method to have data receive over infrared beam so as doesn't allow correlation, communications directly to PDA. (col.12, line 40)

6. Claims 32-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernard (US Patent 5,497,339) in view of Lindgren (US Patent 6,163,274)

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Bernard discloses all the limitations above except the method reusing the data. However, Lindgren discloses system to retransmit data from PDA. (col.3, lines 49-60).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Lindgren's teaching into Bernard's method to have a method of reusing data so as the data to be detected.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-40 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-7249 for regular communications and (703)746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

April 16, 2003


RUPAL DHARIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER